Claims

[c1]   A network device for industrial control comprising:

a network connection between said network de-

vice and an industrial control network;

a MAC address for said network device providing

an address on the industrial control network,

wherein said MAC address is an unique address

of said network device;

and

a representation of the MAC address in a bar code

format visible on said network device.

[c2]   The network device of claim [1]

wherein the bar code is read by a bar code reader

that communicates said MAC address to a DHCP

server.

[c3]   The network device of claim [1]

wherein the bar code is read by a bar code reader

that communicates said MAC address to a BOOTP

server.

[c4]   The network device of claim [1]

wherein the network device is a programmable logic controller.

[c5]   The network device of claim [1] wherein the industrial control network is an Ethernet network.

[c6]   The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address on an industrial control network comprising:
         indicating the desire to replace a first network device with a second network device;
         scanning a first bar code that contains a first MAC address of the first network device;
         scanning a second bar code that contains a second MAC address of the second network device;
         updating a network database, replacing said first MAC address with said second MAC address.

[c7]   The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [6] wherein said network database is a table for a BOOTP server.

[c8]   The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [6] wherein said network database is a table for a DHCP server.

[c9]   The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [6] wherein the network address is an Internal Protocol (IP) address.

[c10] The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [6] further comprising the step of physically replacing the first device with the second device.

[c11] The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address on an industrial control network comprising:

indicating the desire to add a network device to a network database;

scanning a bar code that contains a MAC address of the network device;

identifying an Internet Protocol (IP) address;

updating a network database, adding said MAC address to the network database, said addition including both said MAC address and said Internet Protocol (IP) address.

[c12] The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [10] wherein the method of identifying said Internet Protocol (IP) address consists of scanning a bar code representation of said Internet Protocol (IP) address.

[c13] The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [10] wherein said network database is a table for a BOOTP server.

[c14] The method of assigning a network address to a MAC address of claim [10] wherein said network database is a table for a DHCP server.